TIMES-VIRGINIAN

In the Heart of Virginia's Dark Tobacco Belt

Appomattox, Virginia

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Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Robinson ...... *Editors and Publishers*

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EDITORIAL OPINION

THE CLASS TRIP!

One of the finest developments in recent years in our public schools is the practice of taking class trips—of an educational nature. This week-end, for example the Senior Class of Appomattox High School is in Washington. The Pamplin class went a few weeks ago. And many classes go on tour to historial Williamsburg.

We have been in Washington and Williamsburg and seen the boys and girls getting their history and government lessons first hand. May is the ideal month for these tours. The weather is perfect for such a venture and the timing is right to herald June commencement.

This is an oportunity made possible by a combination of many things: modern roads and busses, hotel and motel catering to this type of business, and the realization by school authorities that seeing backs up reading.

If your child has a chance to go to Washington and visit the Capitol, the Monument, the White House, the many memorials—and the zoo don't let him miss it. If he does have the opportunity to make the tirp as one of a school group, why not take the family and go yourself!

And, incidently, Appomattox is a destination for many group tours. Go out of your way to make welcome every bus loaded with visitors which comes to historic Appomattox.

NO SECRETS

(Selected)

Plans have been made, and have received governmental approval, whereby a group of Russian farmers will be allowed to visit American agricultural areas, starting in Iowa. There is a question whether this tour will actually materialize, for the reason that the Russians are unwilling to accept provisions of American law providing for fingerprinting of foreign visitors. But whether it does or not, it is plain that Russian officials are extremely keen to learn about American farming. Russia always has a serious food problem, and whole regions of the USSSR have been struck by actual famine.

In an editorial discussing the proposed tour, the Opinion - Tribune, of Glenwood, Iowa, made this striking observation: "We have no apprehension that the visit to the United States by a group of Russian farmers will reveal any particular U. S. agricultural secrets. In fact, this country has no agricultural secrets .. only hard work, progresive farm practices, and individual freedom and initiative."

If the Russians do come, they will see many outstanding evidences of material achievement. Our farmers use more and better tractors and other equipment than do those of any other country. They follow proven land and water conservation techniques. They have the boons of electricity, highly advanced chemical fertilizers, effctive insecticides, and many other such tools. But most important by far, they have freedom. All these material benefits are the result of that freedom .. and of the political and economic system which prizes individual freedom above all else.

THANKS, BRO. SWEENEY

One of the grand men of Virginia high school leadership is Robert L. Sweeney, principal of the big Wilson High School, Portsomuth.

Mr. Sweeney was assistant principal, under J. Leon Cobb, when the writer graduated from Wilson High in 1922. So we have known this educator for quite a spell. In addition to being assistant principal, he was our high school science teacher.

Mr. Sweeney was in the news last week. A group of boys came to Wilson High School clad in Bermuda shorts. Mr. Sweeney promtply sent them home. Bravo! Mr. Sweeney is entitled to an award for his common sense.

The writer has a pair of Bermuda shorts. But they are beach wear, or in the privacy of one's own back yard. We once wore them down town in St. Petersburg, Florida. But for wear on the streets or in other public places in Virginia, we agree with Bro. Sweeney and salute his sagacity.

LAWN MOWERS NEAR THE NORTH POLE!

The New Yorker magazine is one of our favorites. It has a way of putting us in our proper niche. It deflates a lot of egos. We enjoy it.

On top of that, it can be educational. Take the following praragraph from the current issue:

"Military intelligence: A recent inventory at Thule Air Force Base, six hundred and fifty miles north of the Artic Circle, disclosed that it had on hand five hundred lawn mowers and the same number of pruning shears."

The people who were going to balance the budget and give us a sound business administration, are having quite a go at it.

ROADS FOR A RESTLESS FOLK

(The New York Times)

If the sum of $101 billion could still startle us, President Eisenhower's recent suggestion of a national ten-year road-building program costing this amount would certainly have done so. But when the sum was divided by ten, it didn't seem impossible. The need is great. We can motor at our ease over thousands of miles of highway in this country, but ease of motoring tends to disappear in cities, near cities, and on important routes between cities.

Moreover, roads that were suitable yesterday are obsolete today and roads that are fairly adequate today will not be so tomorrow. Times change, in the motor world as in other worlds. The demand for speed increases and the demand for cars capable of high speed also increases. But this means also a demand for roads wider than those of today and with fewer curves.

The President's proposals met with heavy sledding in the Senate Public Works Committee last week when the committee threw out the President's bill and substituted one by Senator Albert Gore of Tennessee. Senator Gore's bill would slice the ten-year $101 billion program down to a five-year $18 billion program.

The financial details are complicated. The simple truth, however, is that this country loves roads and will have them, loves to travel and will travel. We are a restless people and have always been so. Some of the most stirring names in our history are those of roads — The Wilderness Road, the Cumberland Road, the Santa Fe Trail, the Oregon Trail. These names call up visions of an adventurous past. But the present is not much different form that past, once we are on the road. Our ancestors had the urge to go somewhere and they went. We have a similar urge.

Somehow the new roads that are needed will be built. Perhaps there will never be an end to this building of roads until the highways of the air have taken over to a great extent the work of the highways of steel and of cement that now pattern our American earth. For us however, as near as we can figure, Kipling's red gods will make their medicine anew, not only every spring but practically all the time.

TIME AND THE RIVER

(Wall Street Journal)

Whenever anyone in public life remarks that in its economic aspects the country is "fundamentally sound", or words to that effect, there is a tendency to give an involuntary shudder. The memory of 1929 is long.

Yet with the retrospect of a quarter of a century, it is clear that those who were using the same confident phrases on the eve of the Great Depression were themselves fundamentally sound. Certainly today the nation is a cornucopia far richer than even the most imaginative optimist of 1929 could have foreseen.

Still, the fact that the reality has exceeded the dream will not do away with the other fact that there was the Great Depression and that it held the nation in its grip for almost a decade For those who lived through it that decade holds a morbid fascination; for those who would bar its repetition it is a ceaseless source of study. Any book about it, such as the one reviewed this morning, is sure to find ready readers.

To answer the question "what happened" is no longer so difficult. What is not so easily answered is why we all went crazy or how to keep us from doing so again. But it does seem to us that the collective craze came on us in large part precisely because the American economy was fundamentally an expansive economy and everybody knew it. We got irrational only because we lost the sense of time.

It would be difficult to estimate the true value of the real estate on the island of Manhattan today, but it's by no means certain that Peter Minuit got a bargain when he paid $24 for it in 1626. It is impossible to estimate the value of America's farms and factories a generation hence but it would be no bargain to bid up today's prices to match the values of some distant tomorrow.

Busted bubbles—from John Law's Mississippi boom to the 1929 debacle—do not come so much from unwarranted optimism as from the unwarranted belief that tomorrow is today.

In a very real sense that is what happened in 1929. People could see the great river of American industry growing ever wider and deeper as it flowed on from small beginnings. And because it was so sure to make the nation ever more fertile, we all felt that some magic we could all begin at once to enjoy that future fertility.

When someone says, as Reserve Board Chairman Martin did the other day, that this country has just begun to realize its real economic potential, he is closer to the mark than the pessimists who cannot even see the river. There is no cause to shudder if only we keep a cautious sense of time

TOWARD WIDER FARM MARKETS

(Contributed)

An editorial in the May issue of Better Farming observes: "The greatest need of farming is for more markets .... Where are the wider markets to be found? Farmers, who have seen the tremendous gains in production caused by research, ask why a comparable emphasis has not been put on research to develop new uses and markets for farm products. This kind of research hasn't gotten much attention and, judging by U. S. Department of Agriculture appropriations, it isn't going to soon."

Then the magazine describes a different approach, which has been proposed by the head of one of the leading research institutions. It lies in providing industry with the necessary incentives .. such as tax concessions, rapid amortization of capital investment, and depletion allowances .. to undertake the job of developing new uses and wider markets for farm products, particularly those in surplus.

There certainly seems to be much merit in this idea. Beyond doubt, research could greatly broaden the farm market as a whole, and make a big contribution to the solution of the ever-growing, ever-more - costly surplus problem. To quote Better Farming once more, "the packing industry, with 140 different-by-products from the livestock it buys, has demonstrated what can be done by research." It is almost literally true that, in the packing process, nothing is wasted. Practically everything goes for some useful purpose, and the by-products range from fertilizers to medicines. And the consumer is also a major beneficiary here .. for the revenue the by-products bring the packers makes it possible to substantially reduce the cost of the meat itself.

THE YELLOW PERIL

(Winchester Star)

Red China is increasing in power so rapidly that the time may come when it will be arrayed against the world, including Russia. This is the opinion of Dr. Wilhelm Starlinger, a German physician who spent nine years in Russian labor camps.

His theory is based on the fact that Red China's population is increasing at the rate of 20 million a year. By official Soviet figures the population today is 600 million.

The only outlet for Chinese population is Northern Asia, now held by Russia, which faces the alternative of giving up this area to China in the future or fighting. When that time comes, according to the prediction of Dr. Starlinger, Russia will have no alternative but to join Western powers for its own survival.

World conditions are changing so rapidly that friends of today are tomorrow's enemies, and vice versa.

Communications

The Editor,
Times-Virginian,
Appomattox, Virginia
Dear Sir:

On behalf of American Heart Association, Virginia Heart Association and the local Heart [illegible] in Virginia who are working toward the conquest of blood vessel diseases, we bring a modest token of [illegible] for your help during the [illegible] Fund Campaign.

The people of Virginia responded generously to our call for voluntary contributions [illegible] present our campaign [illegible] of last year. By the close of fiscal year on June 30, [illegible] hope to surpass the 1954 [illegible] by approximately 45%.

The amount raised [illegible] in proportion to the [illegible] the heart problem, but [illegible] dence that more people [illegible] ing aware that these [illegible] met.

As you know, Heart [illegible] do not give direct medical [illegible] heart patients. It would [illegible] sible to raise sufficient [illegible] care for those who would [illegible] for aid. Heart Association [illegible] wisely expended in an effort [illegible] tend the greatest benefit [illegible] largest number of people [illegible] programs of research, education [illegible] community service.

With warmest regards [illegible] wishes.

Most sincerely,
R. Bryan Grinnan, [illegible]
President, Va Heart Association

(Note: Enclosed was a [illegible] of appreciation, signed by Mark W. Clark, national chairman).

Cancer as a killer has [illegible] eighth place in 1900 to [illegible] today, says the American Cancer Society.

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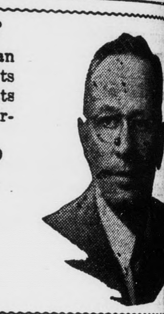

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FARM AND HOME NEWS

Tobacco Spacing Recommendatins Given

Reduced acreages of flue-cured, [illegible]-cured and burley tobacco this year may tempt many growers to compensate by spacing tobacco closer together with the hope of increasing the per-acre returns.

Jim Smith, County Agent, says the increase in yield per acre may result when certain types of tobacco are spaced closer than recommended. However, if spaced too close, the tobacco will generally be of poor quality and the acre value will not be increased. A tobacco plant must have enough sunlight to mature properly.

Recommended planting distances for types of tobacco grown in Appomattox County are:

Flue-cured: rows should be spaced [illegible] feet apart and plants 20 to 24 inches apart in the row. This spacing is especially desirable for the lugs and leaf varieties. Smaller varieties may be spaced somewhat closer with satisfactory results.

Burley: Space rows 3½ feet apart and plants 16 to 18 inches apart in the row.

Fire-cured and sun-cured: space rows 3½ feet apart and the plants 30 inches apart in the row.

Poison Ivy Control

Poison ivy, a common pest around homes and fence lines, can be controlled with a spray composed of a mixture of 2,4, 5-T and 2,4-D. Now is a good time to eliminate this plant as it may cause uncomfortable irritation.

Sudan Grass - Summer Pasture

With the late freeze, diseases and insect attacks on alfalfa and lespedeza, many farmers are looking for ways to increase feed production for late summer. Sweet Sudan grass may be a partial answer.

Sweet Sudan should be seeded two weeks after corn and until July 1. Select a deep fertile soil. Good corn land is usually suitable. Seed at the rate of 20-30 pounds per acre. For best results it should be drilled. Fertilize with a 10-10-10 or equivalent at 600 - 800 pounds per acre.

Grazing may commence 6 to 8 weeks later or when it is 18 inches or taller. Plant 1/3 - 1/2 acre for each unit.

Pearl Millet

Pearl Millet has showed up especially good in test at several of the experiment stations over the state.

Some livestock producers may like to try some this year. Fertilizer, rate of seeding, and date of planting is same as for Sudan grass.

CAUTION: Be sure the seed you purchase is Pearl Millet NOT German Millet, as German Millet does not recover from grazing as does Pearl.

Flea Beetles in Plant Beds

Many plant beds throughout the county are becoming infested with flea beetles. They man be controlled with DDT at the rate of 2 pounds of a 50% wettable to 100 gallons of water or 2 level tablespoons to each gallon of water. If you prefer to dust, use a 5% dust at rate of 1 1/2 pounds per 100 square yards per application.

New Publications

Leaflet No. 34—"Corn Smut" discusses the disease of corn and its control.

Circular 652—"Spraying Weeds in Corn with 2, 4-D" discusses pre-emergence spraying, post-emergence spraying, weeds that may be controlled, amount to use, and precautions.

Circular 651—"Fumigation for Rootknot Control in the Garden" discusses the disease and methods of control.

These publications are free and may be obtained from the county agent's office.

Pulpwood Dealers To Meet

Atlanta, Ga.- The Southern Pulpwood Conservation Association, which is a forestry conservation organization entirely supported by the southern pulp and paper industry, is holding its Area 4 meeting at the Carolinian Hotel, Nags Head, N. C. May 31 - June 1.

Representatives of the industry, pulpwood dealers, landowners, and publicly-employed foresters from Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee and part of South Carolina will discuss forestry matters.

PEANUT ACREAGE IS INCREASED

The Department of Agriculture has just announced a 7.5% increase straight across the board in peanut acreage allotments for 1955. This means that Virginia will have an increase over the present allotment of approximately 7,800 acres.

Representative W. M. Abbitt, of the House Agriculture Committee, stated, "I urged the Department to make an increase in the allotments because of the extreme shortage of supply of peanuts. The supply has been so short that it has been necessary to import foreign peanuts. It is only fair and just that our producers be given the opportunity to produce sufficient peanuts to meet the needs and demands of the trade. I had hoped that the Department would make the allotment on a type basis as the Virginia type peanut is in greater demand that other types. However, this method was not used. but the increase will be of tremendous value to our producers and the entire peanut trade."

Selective Service Announces Tests

An additional Selective Service College Qualification Test to be held on Thursday, May 19, at upwards of 1,000 testing centers throughout the country, was announced today by Major General Lewis B. Hershey, Director of Selective Service.

This additional test is in the form of a "clean-up" for the benefit of students who were prevented by circumstances beyond their control from taking the test administered on April 21, 1955. The test also may be taken by those who, because of a delay in getting their applications for the April 21 test, were not able to take it on that date.

General Hershey emphasized that students holding certificates of admission for the April 21 test, which they failed to use on that date, must submit new applications if they wish to take the examination on May 19. The certifiacte issued for the April 21 test will not admit the student to the May 19 test. The student desiring to be tested on May 19 should go to the nearest Selective Service local board and obtain a new application.

General Hershey explained that students who attain a prescribed upper class standing or make a score of 70 or better on the May 19 test are eligible to be considered by their local boards for deferment during the next academic year. In the case of those students wishing to be deferred for graduate study, a score of 80 on the test, or standing in the upper one fourth of the class in the senior undergraduate year, is required. He emphasized that local boards are not required to defer students who meet either of these criteria.

MAY DAY AT LYNCHBURG COLLEGE

Lynchburg College will hold its annual May Day festival on Saturday, May 14, beginning at 2:30 P. M., with "Paris in the Springtime" as the theme for the day.

Highlighting the festivities which are being planned by the sophomore class will be the coronation of Queen Mildred Travis and King Don Freeborn, both of Lynchburg.

Appomattox is a growing town.

Recommendations On Current Passenger Car Inspections

Richmond, Va.- With the opening of the spring official motor vehicle inspection period last Sunday, Captain R. B. King, State Police Safety Officer, again urged motorists not to wait until the last minute before presenting their vehicles for inspection.

"We have approximately 2,000 official station and 9,000 certified mechanics to do the job," he said, "but even these will not be enough to take care of the owners who usually jam the stations during the last few days of the period."

Passenger cars will be inspected until midnight June 15 and trucks during the entire month of July. Captain King was emphatic in that there could be no extension of the period in either case. Persons driving without the new red sticker after either deadline will be subject to arrest.

The reverse of the sticker will bear a message in keeping with the national "Slow Down and Live" program directed against speeding and other hazardous moving violations in accordance with a proclamation signed by Governor Stanley and the other 47 Chief Executives. This will be in force from Memorial Day week-end through Labor Day.

Captain King added that new regulations, in conformance with the recommendations of the national Society of Automotive Eingineers, will require minor headlight adjustment on many vehicles. Otherwise, he stated there would be no changes in procedure.

In closing he made the following recommendations:

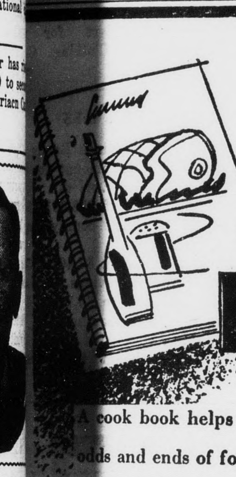
1. Present your car early for a good inspection and minimum of inconvenience.

2. If someone else presents your vehicle, do not give full authorization for repairs. If major repairs must be made, discuss them with the station owner yourself.

3. Be fair. Honest repair estimates can vary with the stations giving them.

4. If you aren't satisfied, ask for a rejection sticker and present your vehicle to another station.

5. Report any discourtesy or dishonest practice you feel you may have been accorded to the State Police. However, you must be prepared to stand behind your charges.



Cook Books AND **CHECK BOOKS**

A cook book helps the thrifty housewife to transform odds and ends of food into tasty dishes. A check book, through the record it provides, helps in the financial management of the family's funds.

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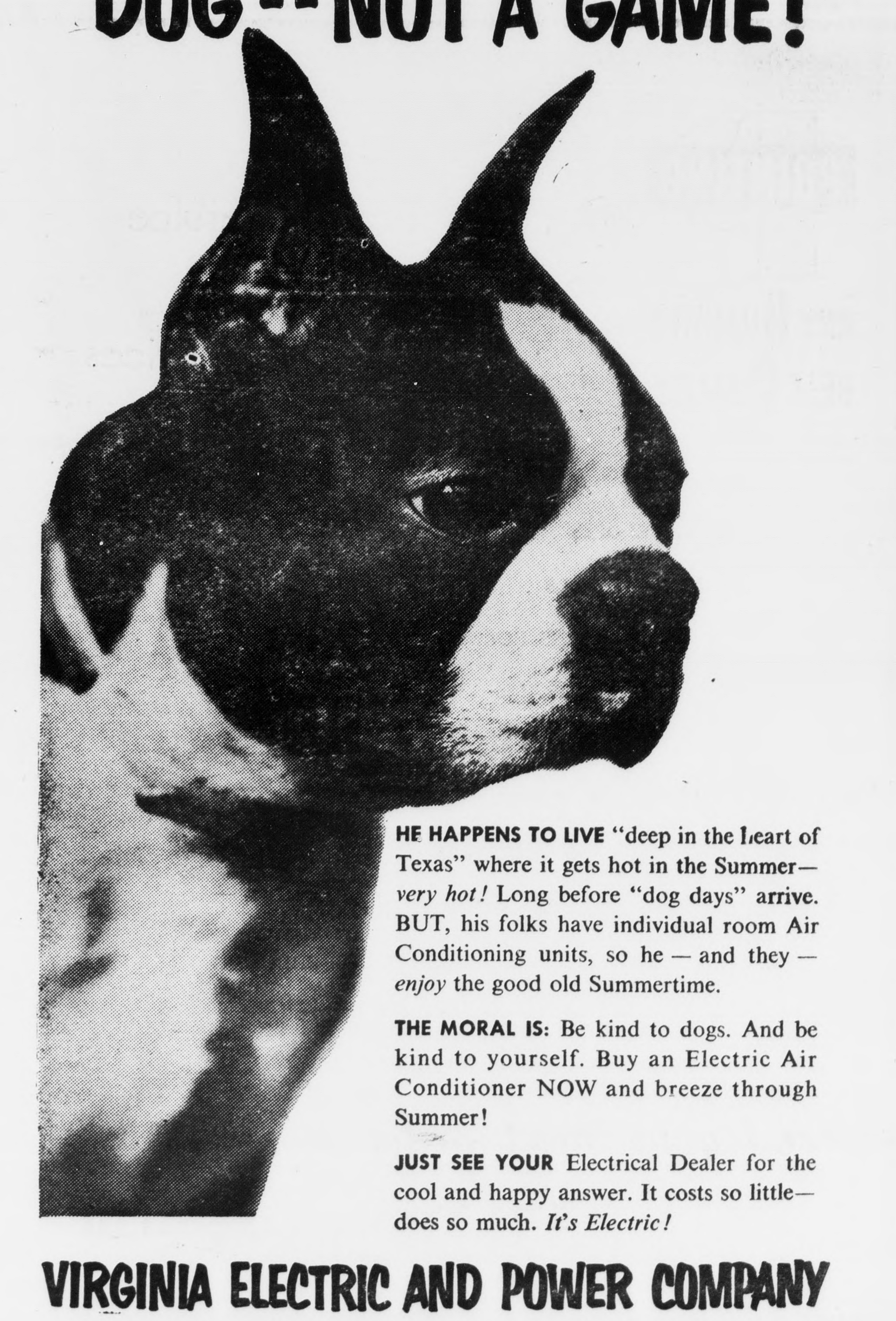

HE HAPPENS TO LIVE "deep in the heart of Texas" where it gets hot in the Summer—*very hot!* Long before "dog days" arrive. BUT, his folks have individual room Air Conditioning units, so he — and they — *enjoy* the good old Summertime.

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